

Administrator and may be used only for processing, administering, implementing, and enforcing enforceable compliance agreements.

(3) OTHER FEES.—Fees assessed under this subsection shall be collected in lieu of fees associated with otherwise applicable rules or requirements modified by an enforceable compliance agreement.

(4) WAIVER.—The Administrator may waive any fees under this subsection for any proposal for an alternative means of compliance from a small entity (as defined under section 601 of title 5, United States Code) or group of small entities.

TITLE II—ENVIRONMENTAL MARKET-BASED STRATEGIES

SEC. 201. CONSIDERATION OF MARKET-BASED MECHANISMS.

Before issuing a rule establishing a new program intended to limit the discharge or emission of a pollutant into the environment, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall, in appropriate circumstances, consider including market-based mechanisms in the design and implementation of the program.

SEC. 202. MARKET-BASED MECHANISMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), a market-based mechanism shall include—

(1) the imposition, on each regulated person, of express legal accountability for an explicit performance objective expressed as a quantity of actual discharges or emissions (and each such person's emissions or discharge limit shall represent a share of a total limit on emissions or discharges from all sources affected by the rule); and

(2) the authorization of the regulated person to comply with the requirements described in paragraph (1) by transferring or acquiring increments of emissions or discharge reductions, which shall represent reductions in emissions or discharges in excess of those required to be made by a regulated entity to meet its emissions or discharge limits.

(b) OTHER APPROPRIATE FACTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency determines that a program with the elements specified in subsection (a) is not appropriate, the Administrator may include in a market-based mechanism a method by which a regulated person subject to emissions or discharge limits that are not expressed as a quantity of total emissions or discharges may—

(A) elect to meet the applicable emissions or discharge limits by limiting the person's total emissions or discharges to a specified quantity that corresponds to the regulated person's initial emissions or discharge limits; and

(B) achieve compliance with the emissions or discharge limits established under subparagraph (A) by acquiring or transferring increments of emissions or discharge reductions.

(2) INCREMENTAL REDUCTIONS.—Subject to paragraph (3), increments described in paragraph (1)(B) shall—

(A) represent reductions in emissions or discharges in excess of reductions required to be made by a regulated entity to meet its emissions or discharge limits; and

(B) be permanent, enforceable, and nondiscrete.

(3) EXCLUSION AS PART OF MECHANISM.—A rule permitting sources to acquire increments of emissions or discharge reductions when increments represent reductions that are discrete, nonpermanent, or discontinuous and are generated by sources the total emissions or discharges of which are not subject to a quantified emissions or discharge limitation requirement shall not be part of a market-based mechanism.

(c) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may not consider market-based mechanisms for a program if—

(1) the program would result in levels of emissions or discharges of the pollutant regulated by the rule in excess of those that would be achieved under an alternative program, taking into account any incentives for generating and retaining excess reductions created by the opportunity to acquire and transfer increments of emissions or discharge reductions as a means of meeting the emissions or discharge limitation requirement applicable to the source; or

(2) the program pertains to a pollutant the properties of which are such that the environmental or human health purposes for which the pollutant is subject to regulation, taking into account any disproportionate or unjust environmental impacts to an individual, population, or natural resource, and any transport of the pollutant that may result, may be achieved only through the imposition of nontransferable source-specific emissions or discharge limitation requirements.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1911

At the request of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1911, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage economic development through the creation of additional empowerment zones and enterprise communities and to encourage the cleanup of contaminated brown-field sites.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE], the Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ROCKEFELLER], the Senator from Nebraska [Mr. EXON], the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN], and the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. SMITH] were added as a cosponsor of S. 2123, a bill to require the calculation of Federal-aid highway apportionments and allocations for fiscal year 1997 to be determined so that States experience no net effect from a credit to the Highway Trust Fund made in correction of an accounting error made in fiscal year 1994, and for other purposes.

S. 2150

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Idaho [Mr. KEMPTHORNE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 2150, a bill to prohibit extension or establishment of any national monument on public land without full compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species act, and an express act of Congress, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 303—COM-MENDING THE GOVERNMENTS OF HUNGARY AND ROMANIA

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. SIMON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 303

Whereas on September 16, 1996, "Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighbor-

liness between Romania and the Republic of Hungary" was signed by Gyula Horn, Prime Minister of Hungary, and by Nicolae Vacaroiu, Prime Minister of Romania, in Timisoara/Temesvar, Romania;

Whereas this agreement between the two governments is an important step in contributing to the stability of that region and to reconciliation and cooperation among the nations of Central and Eastern Europe;

Whereas this agreement will enhance the participation of both countries in the Partnership for Peace program and will contribute to and facilitate their closer cooperation with the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the eventual entry of these countries into full NATO participation; and

Whereas this agreement is a further significant step in the process of reconciliation between Hungary and Romania reflects the desire and effort of both countries to improve their economic cooperation, to foster the free movement of people between their countries, to expand military relationships, and to increase cultural and educational cooperation.

It is resolved by the Senate, The Senate—

(1) commends the farsighted leadership shown by both the government of Hungary and the government of Romania in reaching agreement on the Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighborliness signed on September 16, 1996;

(2) commends the frank, open, and reasoned political dialogue between officials of Hungary and Romania which led to the treaty;

(3) commends the two countries for their efforts to foster improved relations in all fields; and

(4) calls upon the President to utilize all available and appropriate means on behalf of the United States to support the implementation of the provisions of the "Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighborliness between Romania and the Republic of Hungary" and to promote their efforts for regional cooperation as the best means of bringing these two countries into NATO and to ensure lasting security in the region.

SENATE RESOLUTION 304—AP-PROVING PROVISIONS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 304

Resolved,

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The regulations described in subsection (b) are hereby approved, insofar as such regulations apply to employing offices of the Senate and employees of the Senate under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) and to the extent such regulations are consistent with the provisions of such Act.

SENATE RESOLUTION 305—REL-ATIVE TO NATIONAL DUCK CALLING DAY

Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. BREAU, and Mr. FORD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 305

Whereas Stuttgart, Arkansas, with its flooded rice and soybean fields, is located in the heart of the Mississippi River flyway for migratory birds;

Whereas for the past 60 years, the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest and the Wings Over the Prairie Festival have attracted waterfowl enthusiasts from around the world to come to Stuttgart, Arkansas, on Thanksgiving Day weekend;

Whereas the first national duck calling contest was held on November 24, 1936, as part of the traditional Rice Carnival in downtown Stuttgart;

Whereas Thomas E. Walsh of Greenville, Mississippi, was the first national duck calling contest champion, and was awarded a hunting coat valued at \$6.60 for his achievement;

Whereas today, the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest draws contestants from throughout the United States and Canada, with a first place prize package valued at over \$15,000;

Whereas in order to enter the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest a contestant must qualify by winning a World's Championship Duck Calling Contest sanctioned calling contest, which are held in 29 states;

Whereas over the history of the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest attendance at the event has steadily grown; the number of participants has jumped from 10,000 in 1954, to 50,000 in 1992, to 65,000 in 1995; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates Saturday, November 30, 1996, as "National Duck Calling Day". The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE AMOS F. LONGORIA POST OFFICE BUILDING DESIGNATION ACT OF 1996

PRYOR AMENDMENT NO. 5413

Mr. GREGG (for Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 2700) to designate the United States Post Office building located at 7980 FM 327, Elmen-dorf, Texas, as the "Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building"; as follows:

On page 2, insert after line 9 the following new section:

SEC. 2. INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Paragraph (3) of section 3626(b) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking the period and inserting ", and includes a nonprofit organization that coordinates a network of college-level courses that is sponsored primarily by nonprofit educational institutions for an older adult constituency."

THE VETERANS' HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY REFORM ACT OF 1996

SIMPSON (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 5414

Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. SIMPSON, for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. WELLSTONE) proposed an

amendment to the bill (H.R. 3118) to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform eligibility for health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—ELIGIBILITY REFORM

Sec. 101. Eligibility for hospital care and medical services.

Sec. 102. Revision in authorities for provision of priority health care for certain veterans exposed to specified toxic substances.

Sec. 103. Prosthetics and preventive care.

Sec. 104. Management of health care.

Sec. 105. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 106. Assessment of implementation and operation.

TITLE II—CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 201. Authorization of major medical facility projects.

Sec. 202. Authorization of major medical facility leases.

Sec. 203. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 204. Strategic planning.

Sec. 205. Revision to prospectus requirements.

Sec. 206. Construction authorization requirements.

Sec. 207. Terminology changes.

TITLE III—HEALTH CARE AND ADMINISTRATION

Subtitle A—Health Care Sharing and Administration

Sec. 301. Revision of authority to share medical facilities, equipment, and information.

Sec. 302. Improved efficiency in health care resource management.

Sec. 303. Personnel furnishing shared resources.

Sec. 304. Waiting period for administrative reorganizations.

Sec. 305. Repeal of limitations on contracts for conversion of performance of activities of Department health-care facilities and revised annual reporting requirement.

Subtitle B—Care of Women Veterans

Sec. 321. Mammography quality standards.

Sec. 322. Patient privacy for women patients.

Sec. 323. Assessment of use by women veterans of Department health services.

Sec. 324. Reporting requirements.

Subtitle C—Readjustment Counseling and Mental Health Care

Sec. 331. Expansion of eligibility for readjustment counseling and certain related counseling services.

Sec. 332. Reports relating to Vet Centers.

Sec. 333. Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans.

Sec. 334. Centers for mental illness research, education, and clinical activities.

Sec. 335. Committee on Care of Severely Chronically Mentally Ill Veterans.

Subtitle D—Other Provisions

Sec. 341. Hospice care study.

Sec. 342. Payment to States of per diem for veterans receiving adult day health care.

Sec. 343. Research corporations.

Sec. 344. Veterans Health Administration headquarters.

Sec. 345. Disbursement agreements relating to medical residents and interns.

Sec. 346. Authority to suspend special pay agreements for physicians and dentists who enter residency training programs.

Sec. 347. Remunerated outside professional activities by Veterans Health Administration personnel.

Sec. 348. Modification of restrictions on real property, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

Sec. 349. Modification of restrictions on real property, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Sec. 350. Name of Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Sec. 351. Report on health care needs of veterans in east central Florida.

Sec. 352. Evaluation of health status of spouses and children of Persian Gulf War veterans.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—ELIGIBILITY REFORM

SEC. 101. ELIGIBILITY FOR HOSPITAL CARE AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

(a) NEW CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR CARE.—Section 1710(a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a)(1) The Secretary (subject to paragraph (4)) shall furnish hospital care and medical services, and may furnish nursing home care, which the Secretary determines to be needed—

"(A) to any veteran for a service-connected disability; and

"(B) to any veteran who has a service-connected disability rated at 50 percent or more.

"(2) The Secretary (subject to paragraph (4)) shall furnish hospital care and medical services, and may furnish nursing home care, which the Secretary determines to be needed to any veteran—

"(A) who has a compensable service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent;

"(B) whose discharge or release from active military, naval, or air service was for a compensable disability that was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty;

"(C) who is in receipt of, or who, but for a suspension pursuant to section 1151 of this title (or both a suspension and the receipt of retired pay), would be entitled to disability compensation, but only to the extent that such veteran's continuing eligibility for such care is provided for in the judgment or settlement provided for in such section;

"(D) who is a former prisoner of war;

"(E) who is a veteran of the Mexican border period or of World War I;

"(F) who was exposed to a toxic substance, radiation, or environmental hazard, as provided in subsection (e); or

"(G) who is unable to defray the expenses of necessary care as determined under section 1722(a) of this title.

"(3) In the case of a veteran who is not described in paragraphs (1) and (2), the Secretary may, to the extent resources and facilities are available and subject to the provisions of subsections (f) and (g), furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing